

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



May 5, 1987

ALL COUNTY LETTER NO. 87-65

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL COUNTY PROBATION OFFICES

SUBJECT: OUT-OF-STATE FOSTER CARE (AFDC-FC) PLACEMENTS

REFERENCE: ACIN NO. I-91-83

The purpose of this letter is to clarify licensing and rate setting requirements for Aid to Families with Dependent Children-Foster Care (AFDC-FC) funded children who are placed out of state.

Licensing

AFDC-FC is paid on behalf of an otherwise eligible child who is placed in an eligible facility as defined in Eligibility Assistance Standards Sections 45-202.5 and 203.4. The State Department of Social Services (SDSS) does not have the legal authority to license facilities located in other states, therefore SDSS accepts the licensing standards of the receiving state (or other legal jurisdiction). Therefore, when an otherwise eligible child is placed out of state, the eligible facility requirement is met (1) if the placement is made into a comparable facility, i.e., a foster family home, including the home of a relative, or a nonmedical, nonsecure group home, and (2) if the facility is licensed or otherwise approved by the receiving state. For example, if a child is placed with relatives in another state and that receiving state requires relatives to be licensed, the home must be licensed to meet California's AFDC-FC eligible facilities requirement.

Rates for Regular AFDC-FC Placements Out of State

When an AFDC-FC funded child is placed in a family home out of state, the rate established by the receiving state is to be paid. When a child is placed in a group home, the county welfare department (CWD) obtains the rate from the appropriate rate setting authority and ensures that only allowable costs as defined in Operations Policies and Procedures (OPP) Section 11-402.2 are included in the rate paid.

Rates for Special AFDC-FC Group Home Placements Out of State

Welfare and Institutions Code Section 11462.2 provides that for a child receiving AFDC-FC who (1) is placed in a group home which is licensed and located out of state and (2) would otherwise be placed in the California Youth Authority, the rate shall be the group home rate established by the rate setting authority of the state in which the facility is located. The CWD is not required to check for allowability of costs. In order for the CWD to pay this rate, the court order must document that the child is committed to the California Youth Authority and that the commitment is suspended pending placement in the named out-of-state facility.

If you have any questions regarding AFDC-FC eligibility for out-of-state placements, please contact the Foster Care Program Bureau at (916) 445-0813. If you have questions regarding allowable costs for group home placements, please contact the Foster Care Rates Bureau at (916) 323-1263.



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cc: CWDA